GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3232
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2001
BAN ON POACHING OF SHARK
A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;M.V.V.S MURTHI

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have recently imposed a ban on poaching of Shark;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some State Governments/Members of Parliament have represented against this move of the Union Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government are likely to reconsider their decision by way of lifting the said ban to save the future of fishermen; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a)&(b) The Central Government had issued a notification on 11thJuly, 2001 imposing ban on hunting of shark species in order to maintain viable population in the wild.

(c)&(d) Yes, Sir. In the representations received from various quarters, an appeal was made to the Govt. to lift the ban on fishing of sharks etc.

(e)&(f) In view of the representations made by the State Governments, Members of Parliament and others regarding the plight of poor fishermen community, it has been decided to restrict the hunting prohibition to 10 Shark species only that are considered vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered.

ANNEXURE I

ANNEXURE REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c)&(d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3232 10.12.2001 REGARDING BAN ON POACHING OF SHARK

List of representation received from State Governments and Members of Parliament for exempting sharks and other species from the purview of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 are:

i. Shri Buddhadev Bhattacharjee
Chief Minister, West Bengal.

ii. Shri O. Panneerselvam,
Chief Minister, Tamil Nadu

iii. Shri N.N. Jha,
Lieutenant Governor
Andaman & Nicobar Islands

iv Shri Bansagopal Chaudhury
Minister Incharge
Cottage and Small Scale Industries Department
West Bengal.

v. Prof. K.V. Thomas
Minister for Fisheries & Tourism
Govt. of Kerala

vi. Shri P. Mohan
Member of Parliament

vii. Shri Peter Alphonse
Member of Parliament

viii. Shri. Bishnu Pada Ray,
Member of Parliament.